

TCS-3101/64
4 January 1965

MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Director, Current Intelligence

SUBJECT : Preliminary Evaluation of Missions T 314A,
T 324A, and T 344A, Flown Over the Sino-
Indian Border Area on 16, 17, and 20
December

1. These three missions covered virtually the entire border including the far western areas of Lakakh and western Sinkiang, the areas opposite Nepal and Bhutan and the areas opposite the NEFA. For the most part the photography was cloud-free; only a few targets were missed because of cloud cover. Most of the major barracks areas were covered but only minor improvements were noted. The status quo appears to prevail in all military areas.

25X1 2. Several airfields were covered. There continues to be no tactical air strength in the area although improvements at Hotien Airfield suggest plans for a tactical base in western Sinkiang. Hotien airfield now has a 9,500 foot, hard surface runway with taxiways and alert ramps. The old airfield at Hotien has a 4,000 foot natural surface runway. This new strip at the site of the old airfield has been constructed [redacted] Two IL-14 transport aircraft were in evidence. While the field may be used as a tactical base, the length and surfacing now make it possible for Communist China's turbo-prop transports to land there.

3. Soche airfield, also in the same general area, has been abandoned and returned to cultivation. The large airfield about 50 miles north of Lhasa was covered but no aircraft were in evidence.

25X1A

[redacted]
CAS Division